

## Message Text

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44

ACTION ACDA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 ERDA-05 CIAE-00 H-02 INR-07

IO-10 L-03 NSAE-00 OIC-02 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-03 PRS-01

SAJ-01 SAM-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 TRSE-00 NSC-05

BIB-01 /089 W

----- 074017

R 070835Z JUL 75

FM USDEL MBFR VIENNA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1102

SECDEF WASHDC

INFO ALL MBFR MISSIONS 0165

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

USDEL SALT TWO GENEVA

AMEMBASSY ANKARA

S E C R E T MBFR VIENNA 0337

GENEVA FOR CSCE DEL AND SISTO

FROM US REP MBFR

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, NATO

SUBJECT: MBFR NEGOTIATIONS: SUMMARY REPORT FOR PERIOD JUNE 30-JUL 6

1. SUMMARY. THE EMPHASIS OF THE MBFR NEGOTIATIONS

THIS WEEK- WITHIN THE AD HOC GROUP, AT THE JULY 1 INFORMAL

SESSION AND IN EAST-WEST BELATERALS- WAS ON FURTHER

DEVELOPMENT OF THE DEFINITIONS ISSUE. THERE WERE INDICA-

TIONS, AS YET TENTATIVE, THAT THE EAST COULD BE MOVING

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TOWARD ACCEPTANCE OF THE TWO-FORCE (GROUND AND AIR  
MANPOWER) DIVISION BY THE WEST, POSSIBLY UNDER

IMPETUS OF A DESIRE BY THE SOVIET PARTICIPANTS TO DEMONSTRATE SOME CONCRETE PROGRESS AT VIENNA HOWEVER LIMITED BEFORE THE END OF THE CURRENT ROUND AND ON THE EVE OF THE ANTICIPATED CSCE SUMMIT. THE HUNGARIAN JULY 3 PLENARY STATEMENT CONSISTED OF THE STANDARD EASTERN CALL FOR COMPREHENSIVE REDUCTIONS, REJECTION OF "ARBITRARY" WESTERN COUNTERPROPOSALS AS A DISTORTION OF THE UNDERSTANDING REACHED AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE SPRING 1973 PREPARATORY TALKS, AND AN APPEAL FOR WESTERN FLEXIBILITY AT VIENNA SUFFICIENT TO PERMIT A "CONSTRUCTIVE" REDUCTION OUTCOME IN KEEPING WITH THE CURRENT TREND TOWARD RELAXATION OF INTERNATIONAL TENSION. END SUMMARY.

2. AS SUGGESTED BY UK REP (ROSE) IN BILATERAL CONVERSATION THE PREVIOUS WEEK WITH SOVIET REP (KHLESTOV), THE JULY 1 INFORMAL SESSION OF THE VIENNA TALKS ADDRESSED THE ISSUE OF FORCE DEFINITIONS WITHOUT EXPENDING EFFORT ON TRYING TO REACH AN AGREED FORMULATION OF AN AGENDA ITEM TO COVER THE DISCUSSION. AN ACTIVE EXCHANGE ENSUED. WESTERN REPS PRESENTED THEIR DEFINITION OF GROUND FORCES, EXPLAINED HOW IT PROVIDED A PRACTICAL WAY TO DISTINGUISH BETWEEN GROUND AND AIR FORCES IN THE AREAS OF REDUCTIONS, AND CITED ITS UTILITY AS A BASIS FOR EXCHANGING DATA.

3. KHLESTOV CRITICIZED AS INADEQUATE THE WESTERN ATTEMPT TO DISTINGUISH AIR AND GROUND FORCES THROUGH USE OF A CRITERION BASED ON THE UNIFORM WORN BY THE FORCES INVOLVED. HE ASSERTED THAT, IN THE LIGHT OF DIFFERENCES OF ORGANIZATION OF THE FORCES OF BOTH SIDES, PARTICIPANTS SHOULD AGREE TO ASSIGN FORCES IN THE AREA TO GROUND OR AIR FORCES ACCORDING TO THEIR MILITARY FUNCTION AND MISSION. KHLESTOV PRESENTED A DEFINITION DRAWN UP

ACCORDING TO THIS APPROACH WHICH APPEARED TO HAVE THE PRACTICAL EFFECT OF MOVING FRG PERSHING PERSONNEL AS WELL AS WARSAW PACT HELICOPTER UNITS TO GROUND FORCES AND POLISH AND CZECHOSLOVAK GROUND BASED TERRITORIAL AIR DEFENSE ATTACHED TO FIELD UNITS OF THE GROUND FORCES.

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4. THE EASTERN DEFINITION PROPOSED BY KHLESTOV FOR PURPOSES OF THE NEGOTIATIONS CATEGORIZED THE FOLLOWING AS GROUND FORCES: MOTORIZED RIFLE (MECHANIZED INFANTRY); TANK (ARMORED); AIRBORNE; MOUNTAIN INFANTRY; MISSILE; ARTILLERY; AIR DEFENSE MISSILE FORCES; ARMY AVIATION; AND THEIR COMBAT SUPPORT AND MAINTENANCE FORCES; AS WELL AS TERRITORIAL FORCES. THE EASTERN DEFINITION FURTHER CATEGORIZED THE FOLLOWING AS AIR FORCES: FIGHTER, FIGHTER BOMBER; BOMBER; RECONNAISSANCE; TRANSPORT AVIATION; AIR

DEFENSE MISSILE FORCES; AS WELL AS COMBAT SUPPORT AND  
MAINTENANCE FORCES OF AIR FORCES AND AIR DEFENSE FORCES.

5. WHILE FULLY RESERVING THEIR POSITION, ALLIED REPS  
POINTED OUT THAT IT WAS UNCLEAR THAT THIS DEFINITION WAS  
INFACT COMPREHENSIVE AND WOULD INCLUDE ALL ACTIVE  
DUTY MILITARY PERSONNEL IN THE AREA EXCEPT THE NAVY.  
THEY QUESTIONED WHETHER THE DEFINITION WOULD PROVIDE  
A PRACTICAL WAY TO DISTINGUISH BETWEEN GROUND AND AIR  
FORCES AND AGAIN INSISTED THAT THEIR OWN DEFINITION WAS  
A MORE PRACTICAL ONE.

6. FOLLOWING DETAILED EXAMINATION OF THE EASTERN SUB-  
MISSION BY THE MILITARY SUB-GROUP, THE AHG DETERMINED  
ON JULY 4 TO USE THE JULY 8 INFORMAL TO FURTHER DEMON-  
STRATE THE WEAKNESS OF THE EASTERN DEFINITION AND TO  
PRESS THE WESTERN DEFINITION.

7. AT THE JULY 3 PLENARY MEETING, THE HUNGARIAN REP  
(PETRAN) DELIVERED THE ONLY STATEMENT. HE CITED THE NEED  
TO EXTEND DETENTE TO THE WHOLE WORLD AND GIVE IT AN  
"IRREVERSIBLE CHARACTER." A SUCCESSFUL FORCE REDUCTION  
OUTCOME WOULD "PLAY AN IMPORTANT PART IN THIS TREND."  
SUCH AN OUTCOME REQUIRED THE WESTERN SIDE TO SUBSTITUTE  
"REALISM AND FLEXIBILITY" FOR "PERSISTENCE" IN ITS  
ARBITRARY AND STUBBORN APPROACH WHICH UP TO NOW HAD  
DEPARTED FROM THE UNDERSTANDINGS REACHED AT THE JUNE 1973  
CONCLUSION OF THE PREPARATORY TALKS. PETRAN REITERATED  
THE STANDARD EASTERN CALL FOR COMPREHENSIVE REDUCTIONS,  
INCLUDING NATO NUCLEAR ARMAMENTS. HE EXPRESSED THE HOPE  
THAT THE SERIES OF SOVIET-US ACCORDS REACHED IN RECENT

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YEARS IN THE FIELD OF ARMS CONTROL INDICATED THE WAY  
WAS YET OPEN FOR A "CONSTRUCTIVE" MBFR UNDERSTANDING. RESOR

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## Message Attributes

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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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